

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRASIL 00166 081636Z

44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 OES-03 TRSE-00 COME-00 EB-07

OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-06 ARAE-00

NSF-01 AID-05 /072 W

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P R 081500Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7168

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

O/AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY 417

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 0166

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TGEN, XM, UY, BR

SUBJECT: WORKING GROUP ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

REFS: A. MONTEVIDEO 3794; B. STATE 273355; C. STATE 273356;

D. BRASILIA 8326; E. BRASILIA 9665

1. SUMMARY: TO ASCERTAIN STATUS OF GOB RESPONSE TO US AIDE MEMOIRE (REFTEL (B)), ECON COUNSELOR JANUARY 6 CALLED ON AMBASSADOR CABRAL DE MELLO, CHIEF FONOFF BUREAU FOR REGIONAL AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS, AND ON WALTER BAUTISTA VIDAL, SECRETARY FOR INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY IN MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE. FONOFF OFFICIAL RECOGNIZED IMPORTANCE OF KEEPING US-LA DIALOGUE ALIVE BUT OPPOSED CREATION OF NEW INTER-AMERICAN INSTITUTIONAL MACHINERY. TECHNOLOGY OFFICIAL STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF USG POLITICAL UNDERTAKING REGARDING ELEVEN LA POINTS PRESENTED AT SANTIAGO MEETING. END SUMMARY:

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 BRASIL 00166 081636Z

2. CABRAL DE MELLO SAID GOB RESPONSE WAS STILL IN

PREPARATION BUT THAT HE DID NOT THINK GOB WOULD "REFUSE" US AIDE MEMOIRE; GOB "DID NOT WANT ANOTHER PERMANENT INSTITUTION". MAIN POINT WAS TO KEEP "DIALOGUE ALIVE, PROVE FOR SPECIFIC AREAS OF AGREEMENT." HE PERSONALLY APPRECIATED DIFFICULTIES USG WAS FACING IN THIS AREA, WHICH PARTLY INVOLVED PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS. REASON FOR DELAY IN GOB'S REPLY WAS THAT BAUTISTA VIDAL HAD BEEN ON LEAVE; HE, CABRAL DE MELLO, HAD PROVIDED BAUTISTA WITH COPY OF AIDE MEMOIRE ONLY LAST WEEK, AND EXPECTED BAUTISTA VIDAL'S RECOMMENDATIONS BY JANUARY 10. CABRAL DE MELLO MADE NO SPECIFIC COMMITMENT AS TO WHEN GOB REPLY MIGHT BE FORTHCOMING, EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT HE PERSONALLY WAS HANDLING THE MATTER.

3. IN SEPARATE MEETING, BAUTISTA VIDAL EXPRESSED DIS-SATISFACTION WITH US POSITIONS IN WORKING GROUP. RE SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS, BAUTISTA SAID LATIN AMERICAN DELEGATIONS WELL UNDERSTOOD DIFFICULTIES US EXECUTIVE BRANCH WOULD BE FACING IN IMPLEMENTATION BUT WHAT THEY SOUGHT WAS A GENERAL POLITICAL UNDERTAKING BY USG TO PURSUE AT LEAST SOME OF THE LINES OF ACTION CONTAINED IN ELEVEN POINTS. AS AN EXAMPLE, HE CITED FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE UNDER OAS; PRESENT LEVEL OF \$12 MILLION WAS TOTALLY INADEQUATE. IN RESPONSE TO SUGGESTION THAT MAIN POINT OF US AIDE MEMOIRE WAS THE NEED TO PRESERVE FLEXIBILITY, BAUTISTA VIDAL SAID THAT THE TERM "PRECONDITION" MIGHT HAVE BEEN UNFORTUNATE CHOICE OF WORDS; NOT ALL ELEVEN POINTS, IN BRAZILIAN VIEWS, WERE EQUALLY IMPORTANT. ALL POINTS OBVIOUSLY WERE A MATTER FOR FURTHER JOINT EXPLORATION AND DEVELOPMENT AND, IN THAT SENSE, REPRESENTED POINTS FOR AN AGENDA. BAUTISTA VIDAL, HOWEVER, DID NOT RETREAT FROM IDEA THAT US SHOULD MAKE POLITICAL COMMITMENT ON AT LEAST SOME OF THE ELEVEN POINTS.

4. COMMENT: CABRAL DE MELLO DID NOT SEEM WELL PREPARED FOR DEALING WITH SPECIFICS OF ISSUE. WHILE CONVEYING IMPRESSION THAT GOB WISHED AMICABLE RESOLUTION, HE CLEARLY HAD NOT YET THOUGHT THROUGH A STRATEGY FOR MONTEVIDEO MEETING, AND DEPTH OF US CONCERN ABOUT PRECONDITIONS. BAUTISTA VIDAL CONVEYED RATHER HARD LINE,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BRASIL 00166 081636Z

BUT MAY HAVE BEEN CONCERNED TO KEEP OPTIONS OPEN. GENERALLY, CABRAL DE MELLO'S VIEWS, SUCH AS OPPOSITION TO PERMANENT MACHINERY, APPEAR TO BE IN LINE WITH BRAZILIAN POSITION TAKEN DURING AMBASSADOR BOWDLER'S VISIT. JOHNSON

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